

National Herald, Shun Pao :-

GERMANY TO MAINTAIN STRICT NEUTRALITY IN SHANGHAI AND FAR EAST

According to information given to our reporter by a high official of the German Consulate-General in Shanghai yesterday, notwithstanding the changes in the situation in Europe, there will be no change in Germany's position of strict neutrality in Shanghai and in the Far East.

The high official said, "We do not want to attack anybody, but we hope that the comments occasionally appearing in local newspapers attacking Germany will be substituted by reports of German news agencies in Shanghai. Reports about a German Fifth Column and secret police in Shanghai are all untrue. Of course, future developments cannot be predicted, but at present we really have no ambitions."

He pointed out that the situation in Shanghai is not governed by local action but is governed by the policy in Berlin. If an order comes from Berlin, everything will be carried out in accordance with the order. Germany, however, is not living on another world, and people in Germany entirely understand conditions in the Far East. The position of Germany in Shanghai is as delicate as that of other belligerents.

The belligerent attitude of certain circles in Shanghai was deplored by the German people. Local people must realize that in view of the European situation, it cannot be guaranteed that conditions in Shanghai will never be changed. Foreign residents in Shanghai, therefore, should not unnecessarily create ill-will.

May 31, 1940.

Afternoon Translation.

National Herald, Ta Mei Pao and Chinese-American Daily News:-

ACTIVITIES OF FIFTH COLUMN IN SHANGHAI DENIED.

Besides a report on the recent situation of the European War which was made during an interview with newspapermen yesterday, a special intelligence officer of the German Embassy in Shanghai gave explanations of the alleged activities of the German "Fifth Column" and "Secret Police" as were published by local newspapers recently. He stated that the allegations of recent activities of German residents in Shanghai such as the "Fifth Column" and "Secret Police", published by newspapers, are absolutely false and without foundation. These allegations would easily cause disturbance to the peace and good order in the Foreign Settlements. The S.M.C. was requested by the German Consul-General in Shanghai to pay special attention to the propagation of this kind of news.

The special intelligence officer was then asked by the newspapermen whether any settlement has been reached with regard to the intrusion of a British soldier into the Deutsch-Asiatische Bank, a German bank, at the corner of Szechuen and Kiukiang Roads, in an attempt to cut down the flagpole there with a saw. The special intelligence officer replied that following the occurrence of this matter, a protest was immediately addressed to the S.M.C. by the German Consulate-General, requesting the transmission of the protest to the British Consulate-General in Shanghai. A letter of apology was received from the British Consulate-General through the S.M.C. yesterday with a promise to compensate all damages done. The German Consulate-General was therefore satisfied.

It is said that after the King of Belgium ordered the troops to cease resistance, Germany has announced that Belgium is no longer in existence. With regard to this problem, the special intelligence officer was asked by newspapermen what attitude Germany will take towards the Belgians in Shanghai. It was replied that no intimation regarding such has yet been received.

May 28, 1940.

Morning Translation.

National Herald (Editorial) :-

INTERNATIONAL PROPOSITIONS AND ATTITUDE OF SHANGHAI RESIDENTS

Of late, a report has been widely current in this locality to the effect that the "Fifth Column" agents of Germany are very active in Shanghai. It is reported simultaneously that the belligerents of the war in Europe are engaged in a violent "hysterical war" in Shanghai. It appears that Shanghai cannot escape the turmoil of the European war. No matter whether or not all these reports are exaggerated, we are of the opinion that the residents in Shanghai, especially the Chinese people, should attach importance to the following points :-

Firstly, the residents in Shanghai should strictly observe neutrality. China has been engaged in the war of resistance for the sake of the independence and liberty of her people. With the exception of Japan, the Chinese people regard all foreign countries which are in sympathy with China's war of resistance and assist her in the war as the friends of China. It must be noted that it does not depend upon the European war to make a distinction between friendly and unfriendly nations; the distinction is made from the standpoint of China's war of resistance. China is neutral towards the European war and it is not necessary for her to be involved in the European war. As their fatherlands are in a state of war, it does no harm for the foreign residents living in Shanghai to maintain their own stands. People may still live peacefully in Shanghai, an international city.

FILE Any attempt to "commit robbery during a fire" or to change the status quo of Shanghai under any pretext. Being an international city, it seems unnecessary to let Shanghai be influenced by the European war. The territorial sovereign rights of Shanghai belong to China and for this reason, nobody should be allowed to change the status quo of Shanghai without approval being secured from the legal Chinese Government. No evil situation should occur in the local Foreign Settlements notwithstanding the complication of the organizations of the Settlements. The arrangements made a week ago by Admiral Hart and the expression of their attitudes by the local authorities of the foreign countries concerned are sufficient to make us set our hearts at rest regarding the future prosperity of Shanghai. Any attempt to change the status quo of Shanghai is absolutely unreasonable and it will simply reveal the plot of the persons responsible to "commit robbery during a fire". The local residents are supporting the maintenance of the status quo of Shanghai and also the relations established between the legal Chinese Government and the Settlement authorities. What the local residents should do is to co-operate with the authorities for the purpose of checking the intrusion of the illegal influence.

Thirdly, the residents in Shanghai should endeavour to improve their welfare. In support of the maintenance of the status quo of Shanghai, the local residents

May 28, 1940.

Morning Translation.

hope that the Settlement authorities will attach importance to the welfare of the residents. As a matter of fact, the Settlement authorities must try to improve the welfare of the residents should they desire to secure their support. There is no reason for the Settlement authorities to relax their work for the welfare of the local residents during the grave stage of the European war. For instance, the prices of commodities in Shanghai have gone up illegally and the Settlement authorities must strictly apply sanctions against the high prices so as to protect the residents. In this way, peace and order in Shanghai may be maintained as usual, while its prosperity may be preserved.

October 12, 1939.

Afternoon Translation.

Shun Pao, Sin wan Pao :-

FRENCH CONCESSION AND INTELLIGENCE WORK
BY LOCAL GERMANS

The French Municipal Council will deal carefully with all applications submitted by German residents in the French Concession for building licences or business licences.

On October 12, the French Municipal Council notified its departments to keep a watch for intelligence work by Germans. The French authorities have no desire to place restrictions on law-abiding German residents in the Concession and they will continue to issue building or business licences to Germans after it has been ascertained that the applicants have no ulterior motives.

There are now several thousand German Jews in the French Concession, who are conducting business. The French authorities will not create inconveniences to these Jews.

It is learned that Germans, not of Jewish origin, undertaking intelligence work, have stealthily printed a red "J" (meaning German Jew) on their passports. The French authorities will exercise greater care when conducting investigations about German Jews.

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September 19, 1939.

Morning Translation

Hwa Pao :-

THE INVASION OF POLAND BY SOVIET TROOPS : RUSSIAN COMMUNITY
IN SHANGHAI CALM.

The U.S.S.R., which has announced her neutrality, has sent her troops to invade Poland. The Chinese and foreign community in Shanghai is certainly concerned about the movements of the U.S.S.R. Consulate-General and her people in Shanghai. The following information was obtained yesterday from parties concerned, by our reporter :-

The U.S.S.R. Consulate-General was originally situated in the large building at No.20 Whangpoo Road. During the hostilities in Shanghai in August, 1937, the Japanese frequently deliberately fired their artillery over the Consulate building with a view to intimidation. In order to avoid unnecessary accidents, the U.S.S.R. Consulate-General removed to House 10, Passage 100, Route Say Zoong. Recently the U.S.S.R. Government issued an order directing the Consulate-General to move back to its original site, thus the Vice Consul has issued a notice announcing the removal of the consulate.

Yesterday our reporter made enquiries at the Soviet Consulate-General, ascertaining that the Consul-General returned to Russia a month ago and that the affairs of the consulate are now in the hands of the Vice Consul. It has been decided that the Consulate will remove back to its original quarters on Whangpoo Road on or about September 24.

In addition to the U.S.S.R. Consulate-General, the Soviet public and private organizations in Shanghai consist of the Tass News agency, the Russian Daily News, the Russian Emigrants Association, the Russian Emigrants Relief Association, the Russian Naval and Military Servicemen Association, the Russian Ex-Servicemen Club, the Russian Women's League, the Russian Disabled Soldiers Association, the Russian Mercantile Shipping Association, the Russian Recreation Association, the Soviet Russian International Travel Society, the Russian Orthodox Confraternity, the Russian Red Cross Society, the Russian Orthodox Hospital, the Russian Refugees School, the Russian Electric Company, the Russian Public Dispensary, the Russian Economic Co-operative Society, the Soviet Union Bank. The number of Soviet and White Russian emigrants in Shanghai is between 6,000 and 7,000. The U.S.S.R. Consulate-General in Shanghai has issued no comment on the invasion of Poland by Soviet troops nor have any arrangements yet been made to register the Russian people residing in Shanghai, who appear to be calm and unperturbed.